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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

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DEPUTY WHIP

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Congress of the United States

Couse of Representatives Washington, **IC** 20515-0916

Acting Inspector General Lynne Halbrooks Department of Defense Office of Inspector General 400 Army Navy Drive, Suite 1000 Arlington, VA 22202

May 23, 2012

Dear Acting Inspector General Halbrooks:

I am deeply disturbed by recent reports that officials at the Department of Defense may have leaked classified information to filmmakers regarding the raid that led to the killing of Osama bin Laden. If the allegations are true, these individuals' actions could seriously compromise American national security.

As you know, our defense and intelligence communities rely heavily on the discretion of those trusted with classified information. When that trust is broken, it not only puts critical security information at risk, it also endangers the security and safety of the persons involved.

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I respectfully request that you investigate the following and respond to my office in a timely manner:

- 1. Did Department of Defense officials provide any classified information on the raid that led to Osama bin Laden's death to any individual who did not have the appropriate security clearance, including but not limited to filmmakers producing a film about the raid?
- 2. If so, which officials released this information, and which individuals in the Department of Defense or the Obama Administration approved the release of that information?
- 3. Were the identities of the American troops who carried out the raid that killed Osama bin Laden revealed or otherwise compromised in conversations between Department of Defense officials and any individual who did not have a proper security clearance, including but not limited to filmmakers?
- 4. If Department of Defense or Administration officials did approve the release of classified material to individuals without the proper security clearance, what purpose and reasoning determined that the release of this information was vital to our national security?
- 5. Subsequently, was America's national security compromised by this release in any way, including but not limited to the endangerment of the American troops who carried out the raid or by emboldening groups whose mission is to attack our country?

I look forward to receiving a response as quickly as possible. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Drew Shoemaker in my office at 202-225-5792.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress